

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	09/529,239	DOUTRIAUX ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>
	David H Kruse	1638

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to the Amendment filed 8 August 2003.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 38-44, renumbered 1-7.
3.  The drawings filed on 08 August 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All    b)  Some\*    c)  None    of the:
    1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

5.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
  - (a)  The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE**

7.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b)  including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed \_\_\_\_\_, which has been approved by the Examiner.
  - (c)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.

9.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

#### Attachment(s)

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|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____.              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other   |

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR § 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Rochelle K. Seide on 28 August 2003.

The application has been amended as follows:

The Title of the Invention has been replaced with the following title: -- AN ISOLATED DNA THAT ENCODES AN ARABIDOPSIS THALIANA MSH3 PROTEIN INVOLVED IN DNA MISMATCH REPAIR AND A METHOD OF MODIFYING THE MISMATCH REPAIR SYSTEM IN A PLANT TRANSFORMED WITH THE ISOLETED DNA --.

The Abstract has been replaced with the following abstract: -- The present invention relates to an isolated and purified DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence that encodes an *Arabidopsis thaliana* MSH3 polypeptide (SEQ ID NO: 19) involved in the DNA mismatch repair system of the plant, and a method of modifying the mismatch repair system in a plant transformed with the isolated DNA. --.

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David H. Kruse, Ph.D. whose telephone number is (703) 306-4539. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dr. Amy Nelson can be reached at (703) 306-3218. The fax telephone number for this Group is (703) 872-9306 Before Final or (703) 872-9307 After Final.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group Receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

David H. Kruse, Ph.D.  
29 August 2003

DAVID T. FOX  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
GROUP 1638

